

In Recognition of **Hispanic Heritage Month** and the Release of

"Newcomers to the Aloha State: Challenges and Prospects for Mexicans in Hawai'i"

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month gives us the opportunity to celebrate the Mexican community in Hawai'i, the second largest Latino community in the state; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is an appropriate occasion to release the first comprehensive study about Mexican residents in the State of Hawai'i, titled "Newcomers to the Aloha State: Challenges and Prospects for Mexicans in Hawai'i"; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month and this new report draws attention to the permanent and steadily growing community of nearly 38,000 residents of Mexican origin, nine out of ten of whom are U.S. citizens; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the contribution of Mexican-Americans and Mexican residents in Hawai'i in the professions, trades, hospitality and agriculture, as well as their contributions to the diverse community that is Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month presents an occasion to express the needs of this relatively invisible community to be more fully integrated in the state's economy and culture, be valued and recognized for its contributions, have its language and cultural necessities met; and have reassurances of safety and protection in dealings with law enforcement and immigration authorities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 15, 2013 - October 15, 2013 as

"HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the importance of our Mexican-American community and to acknowledge this significant report on Mexican residents in Hawai'i.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this third day of September 2013.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i